

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4660
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 3390

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ILO, AF
SUBJ: VISIT OF US ILO REP DANIEL L. HOROWITZ

REF: (A) STATE 305592, (B) STATE 301959, (C) LUSAKA 3261,
(D) STATE 294250

SUMMARY: MINISTER OF LABOR H.D. BANDA WELCOMES HOROWITZ'
VISIT. HE BELIEVES IT IS VITAL TO THE ILO THAT THE US
NOT WITHDRAW AND HAS TAKEN STEPS DESIGNED TO FIND A MEANS
WHICH WOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE US TO CONTINUE IN THE
ILO. END SUMMARY.

1. MINISTER OF LABOR H.D. BANDA TOLD THE AMBASSADOR DEC 17
THAT HOROWITZ' WOULD BE MOST WELCOME IN ZAMBIA. HE LOOKED FORWARD
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TO CONSULTING WITH HOROWITZ ON THE US' RELATIONS WITH ILO.
IT BECAME APPARENT IN RESPONSE TO THE AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS
THAT BANDA,WHO IS ZAMBIA'S REPRESENTATIVE TO ILO, WAS THOROUGHLY
VERSED IN THE BACKGROUND OF THE US' RELATIONS WITH THAT
ORGANIZATION.

2. HE SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED THE US' POSITION REGARDING CONTINUED ASSOCIATION WITH ILO AT LENGTH WITH THE US' ILO REPRESENTATIVE IN GENEVA IN THE SPRING OF 1976. FOLLOWING THAT DISCUSSION HE HAD TALKED WITH DAVID MORSE TO SEE WHAT TYPE OF COMPROMISE MIGHT BE REACHED WHICH WOULD BE SATISFACTORY TO THE US.

3. ON HIS RETURN TO ZAMBIA, BANDA SAID HE HAD BROUGHT THE QUESTION OF THE US CONTINUED ASSOCIATION WITH ILO TO THE ATTENTION OF THE ZAMBIAN CABINET. THE CABINET HAD DECIDED THAT IT WAS IN ZAMBIA'S INTEREST FOR THE US TO REMAIN A FULL PARTICIPANT IN ILO.

4. SUBSEQUENTLY, BANDA HAD WRITTEN TO ALL OF THE MINISTERS OF LABOR IN ENGLISH-SPEAKING AFRICAN COUNTRIES, SEEKING THEIR COOPERATION IN HELPING TO RESOLVE THE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE ILO AND THE USG.

5. BANDA SAID HE BELIEVED IT WAS IN THE US INTEREST TO REMAIN IN THE ILO. FROM THE OUTSIDE, THE US WOULD HAVE NO CHANCE OF GUIDING OR MODIFYING THE WAY THE ILO CONDUCTED ITS AFFAIRS. FROM THE INSIDE THE US COULD PROVE A CONSTRUCTIVE FORCE.

6. THE MINISTER OF LABOR SAID HE WOULD BE PLEASED TO RECEIVE HOROWITZ THE MORNING OF JAN 12 AND WOULD WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM FOR HIM. THIS WOULD INCLUDE MEETINGS WITH BOTH EMPLOYERS' AND WORKERS' REPRESENTATIVES AT THE MINISTRY OF LABOR. HE AGREED THAT IT ALSO WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR HOROWITZ
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TO CALL ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER.

COMMENT: BANDA HAS BEEN MINISTER OF LABOR FOR THREE YEARS AND HELD THIS POSITION BEFORE IN 1967-68. HE IS THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH THE ILO PROBLEM AND QUITE OBVIOUSLY ANXIOUS TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE AMONG ENGLISH-SPEAKING AFRICAN GOVERNMENT REPS IN ADDRESSING THE ISSUE. BANDA IS WELL DISPOSED TOWARDS US AND A MAN OF CONSIDERABLE CONFIDENCE AND ABILITY. BELIEVE THAT MEETINGS WITH BANDA, EMPLOYERS' AND WORKERS' REPS, AS WELL AS THE FOREIGN MINISTER, WILL FILL THE LIMITED TIME HOROWITZ HAS AVAILABLE DURING HIS VISIT TO LUSAKA AND THAT MEETINGS WILL BE INTERESTING AND USEFUL. EMBASSY DOES NOT RECOMMEND AN ATTEMPT TO SEE PRESIDENT KAUNDA, UPON WHOM WE HAVE MADE SO MANY DEMANDS RECENTLY FOR MEETINGS IN CONNECTION WITH SETTLEMENT OF THE RHODESIAN AND NAMIBIAN ISSUES. HE WOULD NOT INVOLVE HIMSELF WITH THIS ISSUE IN ANY CASE AND WILL BE EXTREMELY BUSY AS A

RESULT OF HAVING JUST RETURNED TO LUSAKA AFTER A PROTRACTED
ABSENCE FROM THE CITY. LOW

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